

REMARKS

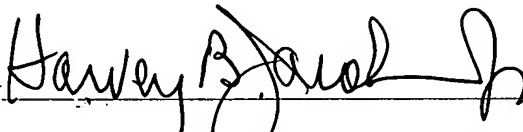
The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [or 2], characterised in that the proportion between length and diameter of the fibres is at least 25, more preferred more than 80 and most preferred more than 200.

4. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-3], characterised in that the chitosan fibres have an absorption higher than 20 g/g, more preferred higher than 25 g/g and most preferred higher than 30 g/g.

5. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-4], characterised in that the acid is an hydroxy or acyl organic acid, which is soluble in the solvent used, preferably glycolic, glyoxylic, pyruvic, lactic or a hydroxy propionic/butanic acid.

6. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-5], characterised in that the heat treatment of the chitosan is carried out at a temperature of 50-250°C.

7. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-6], characterised in that the fibres are manufactured into a fibre rope, knitted, woven or non-woven sheet or pouch or in the form of an island dressing.

8. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of

claims 1-7], characterised in that the device comprises from 0-60% of fibres other than chitosan.

9. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-8], characterised in that the acid is a mixture of at least two acids.

10. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-9], characterised in that the ratio of acid to chitosan is from 2 mmol to 20 mmol acid per gram chitosan, more preferred from 3 to 15 mmol acid per gram chitosan and most preferred from 4 to 10 mmol acid per gram chitosan.

11. (amended) A wound care device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1-9], characterised in that the ratio of acid to chitosan is from 2 to 7.5 mmole acid per gram chitosan, more preferred 3-7.5 mmole acid per gram chitosan and most preferred from 5 to 7 mmole acid per gram chitosan.